

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

COUNTRY Poland REPORT 50X1-HUM

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1. Personal Documents NO. PAGES 1

2. Availability of Items in Stores REQUIREMENT NO. RD

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1. Personal identity documents required to carry 50X1-HUM
2. Procedure when changed permanent place of residence
3. Travel restrictions and border controls 50X1-HUM
4. Availability of such items as writing equipment, pain-relieving drugs, and cameras
5. Internal mail processing
6. Types of radios used in Poland.

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Country : Poland

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1. While in Poland it was necessary [] to carry the Basic Identity Document (Dowód Osobisty) and Military Booklet (Książeczka Wojskowa). The only time [] to present [] documents was when: 50X1-HUM

a. Registering at a hotel.

b. Changing [] permanent place of residence. 50X1-HUM

2. When changing [] permanent place of residence [] first reported to the Building Administration (Administracja Budynków Mieszkalnych) which was often referred to as the region (rejon) or registration bureau (biuro meldunków). Here [] filled out a deregistration slip in which [] entered [] old place of residence and [] destination. 50X1-HUM

[] the same procedure worked in reverse when [] registered in [] new place of residence. Since the offices in which registration and deregistration took place were always busy the procedure usually took a few days.

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3. [] no difficulties or restrictions while travelling in [] 50X1-HUM
the interior of Poland. When travelling on vacations it was not necessary to have any special type documentation. Various places of employment issued leave papers but they were not necessary and people as a rule did not take them along. When on business trips [] always issued by the personnel office [] a set of travel orders (Delegacja Sluzbowa).

[] Actually the most important reason for the issuance of the travel orders was the fact that they were later used for computing expenditures which the finance office had to account for. Also a person in possession of such travel orders had preference over other travelers in the event there was a shortage of transportation facilities.

4. Up to the year of 1954 very slight control was exercised on individuals whose business necessitated travel in the border areas. It was sufficient to present a pass from the place of employment and to state that the travel was official. Since that time, however, control has become more stringent and it is now necessary for the traveler, whether he be on a pleasure or business trip, to present to the authorities in the border areas an authorization from the Municipal National Council. If the traveler does not come from a city where they have a Municipal National Council he must get the authorization from the District National Council. []

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5. [] the following employees of civilian authorities wore uniforms: streetcar employees, mailmen, foundrymen, and miners.
6. As a rule there were no restrictions on the purchasing of writing equipment. There exists, however, a lack of variety. Typewriter ribbon and carbon paper are especially scarce.

7. [] such items as Aspirin, Weramon, Cibazol, and Sulfathazol could be acquired without a prescription. 50X1-HUM

8. Following are the types of cameras which can be bought in Poland:
- a. East German - Reflekta 11, Exakta, Praktika.
 - b. Polish - Welta, Start.
 - c. Russian - Red, Zorki, Komsomolec.

(Russian-made cameras were usually sold in secondhand stores.)

The import of East German cameras stimulated amateur photography to the point that the Polish Government found it necessary to influence the motif of the picture taking lest it get out of hand. There were no restrictions [] regarding the taking of pictures on the streets. [] 50X1-HUM

9. [] there is nothing unusual in the way internal mail is handled in Poland. Letters are sent by dropping them in a post box on the street or taken to the post office itself. Internal as well as foreign mail is received at home from the mailman. In mailing letters to foreign countries, however, the letter must be taken to the post office unopened, where it undergoes a superficial check (not so much the text of the letter as enclosures such as photographs). [] no actual restrictions in correspondence but [] everyone is aware that mail is opened surreptitiously and, rather than censor, the authorities simply destroy letters they think fit. [] 50X1-HUM

[] Inside the country there were no restrictions on objects shipped by mail. Packages sent outside the country, however, could not weigh over 1/2 kg. (unless it was a single item that could not be divided into two packages without being destroyed e.g. books, toys, etc.). 50X1-HUM

10. Following are the types of radios used in Poland with their watt capacity and individual frequency (if available):

German

Stern-Rohltitz, approximately 80 watts, three short, one medium, and one long band.
Sachsenwerk, one short, one medium, and one long-wave band.

Polish

Pionier, same as Sachsenwerk.
Aga, same as Sachsenwerk.
Mazur, same as Sachsenwerk.
Mazowsze, same as Sachsenwerk.
Stolica (?)

Russian

Bialorus, same as Stern-Rohltitz.
Zwiezda, same as Sachsenwerk.

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